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MEDIA ADVISORY: BPA donates computers to St. Mary's Home for Boys

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: WEDNESDAY, March 18, 1998 (PR 16 98)

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What: The Bonneville Power Administration is donating four surplus computers to the St. Mary's Home for Boys which serves at-risk children from all over Oregon. The computers will give students access to the Internet and help them catch up academically.

Who: Donn Ballantine, BPA utilization and disposal manager, and Jane Lesser of Sen. Ron Wyden's staff will present the computers to Lynda Walker, director of development for St. Mary's Home for Boys.

These officials will be available to answer questions and give comments at the event.

When: 11:30 a.m., Wednesday, March 18.

Where: St. Mary's Home for Boys, 16535 S.W. Tualatin Valley Highway, Beaverton

Why: Sen. Wyden referred the school to BPA after learning that the few computers available to the students didn't have enough horsepower to access the Internet. Sen. Wyden told the staff about Executive Order 12999, Educational Technology: Ensuring Opportunity for All Children in the Next Century. The order allows federal agencies to transfer computers and related peripheral tools (e.g. printers, monitors, etc.) surplus to the needs of the agencies to schools and nonprofit educational organizations. BPA purchased its computers with revenue generated from power sales to its utility customers.

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